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POUTERS AND FANTAILS

THAT HARP YOU PLAY SO WELL

O David, if I had
Your power, I should be glad—
  In harping, with the sling,
  In patient reasoning!

Blake, Homer, Job, and you,
Have made old wine-skins new.
  Your energies have wrought
  Stout continents of thought.

But, David, if the heart
Be brass, what boots the art
  Of exorcising wrong,
  Of harping to a song?

The sceptre and the ring
And every royal thing
  Will fail. Grief's lustiness
  Must cure that harp's distress.